

Does the film have "Nitrate" or "Safety" embossed (you can feel or see the 3-D embossing) or photographically imprinted somewhere along the outer edge?\*

**Yes**, it has "Nitrate" embossed. It is **cellulose nitrate film** 

**Perform the Polarization Test** 

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See no colors or dark It is **cellulose acetate film** 

See rainbow colors. It is **polyester film**  See no colors or dark-

If marked "Safety" it is **celulose acetate film** may be a **cellulose acetate film** that is a duplicate/

cellulose nitrate film

Can you date the film?\*\*

The film is dated between 1921 and 1940-If the film is Kodak brand look for a notch code along the edge. Hold it so it is in the upper right corner. Is the first not from the right a "v" shape or a "u"shape?

It is **cellulose nitrate film** 

It is **cellulose acetate film** 

Look for signs of deterioration

Assume It is **cellulose nitrate** 

Assume It is **cellulose nitrate** 

Assume it is **cellulose nitrate film** 

**Perform the Polarization Test** 

It is **polyester film** 

Look for signs of deterioration

It is **cellulose acetate film** 

Assume it is **cellulose acetate film** 

## **Perform the Polarization Test**

nitrate or cellulose acetate.

\*If you see what appears to be imprinting of either safety or nitrate along an edge, but it is not embossed, you may have a duplicate negative OR an actual nitrate or acetate film. Perform close examination of the film and perform the polarization test.

\*\*For x-ray film - if the film is dated before 1930 assume it is cellulose nitrate.

For arial film - If the film is dated before 1940 assume it is cellulose nitrate.

\*\*\*Although Kodak ceased manufacturing cellulose nitrate sheet film ca. 1950 the stock material may have been available and used into the mid-1950s. Also other manufacturers may have produced cellulose nitrate film well into the 1950s.